1. Hawaii can now measure student proficiency and student growth over time in reading and math.
   • For years, educators demanded a way to measure student progress over time to complement student proficiency rates.
   • The new Hawaii Growth Model measures student growth over time in state assessments in reading and math.

2. A Student Growth Percentile (SGP) shows how much a student gained in reading and math skills compared with his or her academic peers.
   • Students in the same grade across the state with similar past scaled scores on the state assessment are part of the same statewide “academic peer group.”
   • At year end, students’ scores on the assessment are compared to the results of students in their academic peer group.
   • Each student receives an SGP, which tells you how much that student progressed relative to other students in the same grade with a similar academic history.
   • An SGP is like a pediatrician’s height and weight chart: for example, a student with an SGP of 60 signifies that the student scored higher than 60 percent of other students throughout the state with similar prior state assessment performance.
   • Individual student growth can be calculated for all students who have two consecutive state assessment scores and who have never repeated a tested grade.

3. A median Student Growth Percentile (median SGP or MGP) can also tell us how much a group of students — a classroom, a teacher’s students, or the overall school — is growing over time.
   • Median SGPs are summary measures that are simply the middle student’s score or the average of the middle two students’ scores when all the scores in a group are sorted from least to greatest.
   • For example, in a school with a median SGP of 60, half of the students had individual student growth percentiles greater than 60 and half of the students had individual student growth percentiles less than 60.
   • The Hawaii Student Growth Model is designed to show the statewide median growth percentile in each subject and grade at the 50th percentile. When examining medians for schools, grades, subjects or groups, it is useful to look for differences from 50 when investigating growth.

4. Student growth is a critical performance measure throughout the education system.
   • MGP is a key metric used in the State Strategic Plan, the new teacher evaluation system, the Educator Effectiveness System, and the new school accountability system, the Strive HI Performance System.

5. Student growth can be measured from year to year, even when Hawaii administers the new Smarter Balanced Test in reading and math in 2015.
   • A school that previously had 85 percent of its students proficient in math on the HSA may have only 60 percent of students proficient on the Smarter Balanced test. Rates of proficiency should not be directly compared from two different tests; that would be like comparing your weight in pounds one month to your weight in grams the next.
   • However, one of the strengths of the Student Growth Model is that it can be used to compare to student growth from year to year even with a change in tests.
   • Student growth is measured by comparing student performance within the same year. Previous years’ results on the HSA will be used to establish the academic peer groups. Then, students’ scores on the new Smarter Balanced tests are compared to the results of students in their academic peer groups. Each student’s SGP will demonstrate how well that student performed relative to other students in the same grade with a similar academic history.
   • This means that the median SGPs used for the teacher evaluation system and the school accountability system can be calculated even with the test change.

6. Information about student growth is available to the public.
   Go to Hawaii PublicSchools.org and search for “Growth Model.” You’ll connect with overview resources and link to the Hawaii Growth Model website.